



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Salmon-Challis
National Forest
Challis-Yankee Fork
Ranger District

HC 63 Box 1669, Hwy 93 N
Challis, ID 83226
208 879-4100 fax 208 879-4199

File Code: 2230/2210

Date: May 15, 2015

Syd and Karen Dowton
PO Box 7
Ellis, ID 83235

Dear Syd and Karen,

This letter serves as your 2015 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Wino Basin Allotment, and should be considered an extension of Term Grazing Permit #20068. Prior approval by the District Ranger is required to amend or change these instructions.

You received a Notice of Non-Compliance on April 17, 2015. The following actions are required of you to accomplish throughout the 2015 and 2016 grazing seasons to remedy the 2014 non-compliance:

- Keep livestock in the pastures as indicated in the tables below.
- Cattle found in the wrong units or allotments are to be returned immediately to the correct pasture; or when notification by phone is given, within 24 hours of notification.
- All use standards, including those for greenline stubble height, bank alteration, and woody browse use, must be met. Move livestock to the next unit or off the allotment prior to exceeding any use standard.
- Assure that all gates are closed to the unit in which livestock are authorized to graze.
- All annual maintenance on assigned improvements must be completed per your Term Grazing Permit. Range improvements must be maintained *before livestock enter a grazing unit and/or the allotment*. Range Improvements must be kept to a standard of repair for their intended purpose, which is functional, safe, and acceptable to the Forest Service.

Permitted Use

Permittee	No. and Class	Permit Type	Season of Use	Head Months
Sydney Dowton	240 cow/calf	Term	05/27 – 09/26	971



Authorized Use for 2015

Permittee	No. and Class	Permit Type	Season of Use	Head Months
Sydney Dowton	240 cow/calf	Term	5/27 – 9/26	971

Pasture Rotation

Unit	Number	On-Date	Off-Date
Grouse	240 cow/calf	5/27	7/7
Elbow-Upper Meadow	240 cow/calf	7/8	9/8
Lower Meadow	240 cow/calf	9/9	9/26

The on-date is only a guide since actual turn out will be when range readiness occurs. Moves from unit to unit will occur before forage utilization standards have been met and no later than the scheduled off-date. It is critical that standards be met in all units at the end of the 2015 grazing season.

Utilization Standards

Unit	Indicator	Standard
All	Greenline	> 4"
	Bank Alteration	< 10%
	Woody Browse	< 50%

Permittee's Management Responsibilities

1. *Please inform the authorized officer in charge 3 days prior to initial livestock turn-out.* If you move onto the allotment late and want to stay past your off-date, you must make arrangements early in the grazing season and obtain prior approval from the District Ranger.
2. *Do not wait for the authorized officer to tell you it is time to move to the next unit.* It is the permittee's responsibility to insure livestock are moved before utilization levels are exceeded and to notify the Forest Officer of this move.
3. Riding and herding is necessary to properly distribute livestock. The permittee will provide a rider throughout the grazing season to maintain proper distribution of livestock, reduce use in riparian areas, and prevent concentrated use by livestock that could result in portions of the pasture becoming over-utilized.
4. *Use of riparian areas needs to be carefully monitored by the permittee to know when it is*

time to move livestock to the next unit and to avoid exceeding standards. Range personnel will monitor forage use in riparian and upland areas where livestock are or have been grazing.

5. Salt should be placed on suitable range at least $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from permanently located watering places, riparian zones, meadows and other areas where livestock naturally congregate. Placement should be in upland areas where additional forage utilization is desired. Salting areas should be moved annually to avoid permanent damage around salting grounds. Do not use the same salting grounds year after year.
6. With multiple-uses on the forest, gates are often left open and livestock stray into the wrong pasture. We realize this is a problem and an inconvenience. However, it is still the *permittee's* responsibility to keep their animals in the proper unit. Livestock found in the wrong units or allotments should be returned immediately to the correct pasture within 24 hours of notification by phone or letter. Early use or repeated use of unauthorized pastures could result in an early move or off-date, or cancellation or suspension of your permit. Routine checks need to be made by you and/or your rider.
7. Any carcass or animals remains will be moved at least 100 yards from water, trails, and roads within 24 hours of notification by a forest officer.
8. Under Special Order # 04-00-097 all hay, straw, or mulch brought onto the forest must be Certified Weed Free.
9. The agency requests that you (the permittee) be a pro-active partner in the inventory, management, and treatment of noxious weeds on your allotment and adjacent National Forest System lands. All equipment which is used off of open roads on federal lands (for range improvement maintenance or other management activities) should be cleaned and free of noxious weeds and their seeds prior to coming onto National Forest System lands. Please share your knowledge of known noxious weed infestations with your Range Management Specialist.
10. *The off date is the date you must have all livestock off the grazing allotment, not the day to start moving livestock off the allotment.*

Range Improvements

No ground disturbing activities or new construction should be conducted on the Forest by the permittee or their personnel without approval from the District Ranger. Materials for replacement and heavy maintenance will be provided to the permittee by the Forest Service whenever possible. Materials for normal yearly maintenance are the responsibility of the permittee.

Thank you for your efforts to continue maintenance and/or reconstruction to structural improvements on your allotment. All annual maintenance on assigned improvements must be completed per your Term Grazing Permit. Range improvements will be maintained *before livestock enter a pasture or the allotment*. They should be kept to a standard of repair which is functional, safe, and acceptable to the Forest Service. Improvements are listed in your Term Grazing Permit and are shown on the allotment map. If you have questions regarding what improvements are your responsibilities, please contact your Range Management Specialist.

Failure to complete necessary maintenance may result in the initiation of permit suspension or cancellation procedures in whole or in part.

Other Considerations

Range inspections may occur several times during the grazing season to check maintenance of range improvements, forage utilization, and compliance with this year's grazing rotation. You are invited to participate in inspections conducted on the allotment. We will try to contact you a few days in advance to let you know when we will be looking at your allotment.

Enclosed is a Year-End Grazing Report for you to record Actual Use data for 2015 and range improvement needs for future grazing seasons. Please record the date and number of livestock turned onto the allotment, the dates livestock are moved to and from each pasture, and the date livestock are removed off the allotment. Accurate records of these dates, maintenance work completed, and future range improvement needs should be returned to our office at the end of the grazing season. The Forest Service uses these records to help allocate Range Betterment Funds, which are used to purchase materials for improvement reconstruction.

If you have any questions regarding these Annual Operating Instructions, please call me or Barry Dopp, Range Management Specialist, at 208-879-4100. We are looking forward to working with you this grazing season.

Sincerely,

/S/ Katherine L Wood

KATHERINE L. WOOD
District Ranger

Enclosures

**Salmon-Challis National Forest
Challis-Yankee Fork and Middle Fork Ranger Districts**

Please fill out this report and return one copy to the District Ranger by: December 1, 2015

Allotment Name: Wino Basin

Permittee: Syd and Karen Dowton

Actual Number Grazed:

Cows _____ Calves _____ Bulls _____ Horses _____ Ewes _____ Lambs _____

Unit	Number	Date In	Date Out

Losses	Number	Value	Causes of Losses
Cow			
Calves			
Bulls			
Horses			

Calf Weights: On _____ Off _____

Maintenance of Range Improvements:

Permittee Costs for Material \$ _____

Permittee Man Hours Invested _____ @ \$ _____ per hour

Herding: Days Spent by Permittee _____ @ \$ _____ per day

Days Spent by Rider _____ @ \$ _____ per day

Salting: Amount Placed _____ \$ _____ per unit

Other Costs:

In an effort to better serve your needs, we are implementing this portion of the annual use report to identify any structural range improvement that is priority for reconstruction. This will help us make plans to authorize money for out-years; we are anticipating a five year schedule.

Range Improvements in Need of Attention:

[illegible]

Comments:

[illegible]

Signature: _____ Date: _____